

Message Text

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TAGS: NATO, ECON, OTRA (GROSFILS, MICHEL)

SUBJ: ECONADS: VISIT OF NATO ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE SOVIET STUDIES
CHIEF TO WASHINGTON

REF: STATE 132641

1. MICHEL GROSFILS (BELIGUM), WHO RECENTLY SUCCEEDED CE BUNNE AS HEAD OF SOVIET STUDIES SECTION IN NATO ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE, WILL MAKE PRIVATE TRIP TO CANADA AND U.S. IN LATE AUGUST. ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE HAS REQUESTED OUR ASSISTANCE IN ENABLING HIM TO MEET WITH APPROPRIATE U.S. OFFICIALS AND EXPERTS CONCERNED WITH SOVIET AFFAIRS ON SEPTEMBER 2-3 WHEN GROSFILS PLANS TO BE IN WASHINGTON.

2. NATO SECRETARIAT RARELY ABLE FUND SUCH CONSULTATION VISITS BY KEY ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE PERSONNEL OTHER THAN DIRECTOR HIMSELF (REF). THUS GROSFILS VISIT OFFERS UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR IN-COMING ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE SOVIET AFFAIRS CHIEF AND INTERESTED USG PERSONNEL TO EXCHANGE IDEAS AND INFO AT FIRST HAND WITH RESPECT TO THIS SIGNIFICANT AREA OF ECONADS WORK PROGRAM AND RELATED U.S. INTERESTS AND INPUT.

3. OF BROADER RANGE OF USG PERSONNEL WHOM ECONOMIC DIRECTOR BILLY MET DURING HIS RECENT WASHINGTON VISIT, ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE
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OFFICIALS HAVE SUGGESTED DR. MURRAY FISHBACK (COMMERCE) AND MR. MILTON KOVNER (STATE) AS ESPECIALLY INTERESTING POTENTIAL CONTACTS FOR GROSFILS IN WASHINGTON, GIVEN HIS PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITIES AT NATO. DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS CONCERNED MAY

WISH ADD OTHERS AS APPROPRIATE, WHO DEAL WITH SOVIET AFFAIRS AT STATE AND ELSEWHERE. GROSFILS ALSO HOPES TO COLLECT ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION AVAILABLE FROM USG FOR USE IN HIS SECTION'S WORK HERE AT NATO.

4. GROSFILS SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH. HE WILL REQUIRE NO HOTEL ASSISTANCE AS HE WILL BE STAYING WITH FRIENDS IN WASHINGTON.
BRUCE

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